

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Economic - Construction projects

HOW
PUBLISHED Daily newspapers and press bulletin

DATE DIST. 2 APR 1953

WHERE PUBLISHED USSR; Iran

NO. OF PAGES 4

DATE
PUBLISHED 20 Jun 1952 - 15 Jan 1953

LANGUAGE Russian

SUPPLEMENT TO 00-W-24128,
REPORT NO. 24132

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U. S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

PROGRESS ON KAKHOVKA GES, LOWER DON,
AND MAIN TURKMEN CANAL CONSTRUCTIONS

Kakhovka GES

Pravda Ukrainy stated on 23 November 1952 that builders have pledged to complete and to put the Kakhovka GES into operation by the end of the Fifth Five-Year Plan. (1)

Leninskoye Znamya of 14 December 1952 stated that hydraulic engineers have pledged to complete the dam of the GES on 1 January 1955 so that spring waters could be utilized for filling the reservoir. The paper also said that the work will involve a total of 1.3 million cubic meters of concrete; 0.5 million cubic meters will be placed in 1953 and the rest in 1954. (2)

Pravda Ukrainy of 26 October 1952 reported that the 22 by 240 kilometers area of the future Makhovka Reservoir, which will hold 19.5 billion cubic meters of water, had to be cleared in preparation for filling it with water in the spring of 1954. According to the paper, the work will consist of removing and rebuilding elsewhere thousands of homes, industrial enterprises, fruit and berry growing kolkhozes, railroads, highways, telephone, telegraph and electric power lines. It will also include, Pravda Ukrainy continued, cutting 6,000 hectares of forests and removing 3 million cubic meters of logs; 86 kolkhozes are to be resettled. (3)

A high-tension power transmission line, 12-kilometers long, between Kakhovka and Novaya Kakhovka has been completed according to Pravda of 7 September 1952 (4)

On 21 September 1952, Pravda reported that there were seven suction dredges on the job, of which six were electrically operated. (5) Turkmenkaya Isskra of 21 September added that the total capacity of the seven dredges was 3,700 cubic meters per hour, and that the earthwork was mechanized 95 percent, and the overall mechanization on the site reached 77 percent. (6)

- 1 -

CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE	X	NAVY	X	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION	
ARMY	X	AIR	X	FBI			

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

On 20 October 1952, Pravda reported that excavation for the concrete navigable lock was completed; a total of about 600,000 cubic meters of earth were excavated (7). Pakinskiy Rabochiy of 25 December 1952 declared that the pumping out of the water from the excavation was started on 23 December (8).

According to Pravda Ukrainy of 20 December 1952, V. S. Steranovskiy, chief engineer of the Kakhovka Construction and Installation Administration of the Gidromekhanizatsiya Trust, declared that suction dredges had removed 3 million cubic meters of earth and had completed the excavation for the foundations of the power plant structure and the spillway on 20 December. He also revealed that altogether 7 million cubic meters of earthwork were carried out during the 8 months of 1952 since the work began, this is well in excess of the pledged volume of 3.7 million cubic meters (9).

Summarizing the work done on the project during 1952, Pravda of 5 January 1953 listed the following achievements: About 200 kilometers of railroad lines, spurs, and sidings were built; 143 kilometers of high-tension transmission lines built and put into operation; plants for asphalt concrete mixing, oxygen manufacturing, concrete mixing, machinery repairs, woodworking, and others were erected and put into operation. An auto transport base was organized and moorings for vessels on the river bank were installed. The construction and installation work planned for 1952 was completed on 7 November and 40,000 square meters of housing were built and put into operation during the year (10).

Moskovskiy Komsomolets of 15 January 1953 claimed that the past monthly average of 500-700 carloads of equipment and materials arriving at the construction site had increased sharply in 1953, 712 cars were unloaded during the first 10 days of the year, and more than 1,000 powerful machines were in operation on the job. (11)

Moskovskaya Pravda of 1 August 1952 disclosed that after completion of the hydraulic center, through navigation on the river will be maintained by means of a special canal, almost one kilometer long, which has a lock at one end. (12)

Lower Don Construction

The great construction on the Don River between its estuary and the dam of the Tsiriliyanskaya Reservoir has already been started according to a dispatch contained in Teterya Informatsiya Page No. 3, of 5 January 1953. The work so far consisted of providing housing for builders and erecting auxiliary enterprises. The project calls for four hydraulic centers to be constructed on the Don River at Stanitsa Nikolayevskaya, Stanitsa Melnikovskaya, Stanitsa Aksayskaya, and at the Konstantinovskiy workers' settlement. About one million cubic meters of concrete will have to be placed to complete the project. (13)

Sovetskaya Moldaviya of 13 November 1952 revealed that the four hydraulic centers with dam and navigable locks will greatly improve the navigation on the river and the GES built at the dams will be instrumental in electrification of rural districts along the river.

The paper also stated that the project included building the largest river port in the USSR at a point, now undisputed, near the confluence of the Severnyy Donets and the Don rivers. At present, a railroad is being extended to the proposed site. The port will be used mainly for transshipment of Donets coal, grain, lumber, and other cargo. (14)

Main Turkmen Canal

On 8 August 1953, Sovetskaya Litva reported that the second electric power generating train was put into operation (15), and on 12 December 1952 Pravda Vostoka reported that all together there were 80 electric power plants in operation on the construction site of the Main Turkmen Canal. (16)

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

Sovetskaya Kirgiziya of 13 September 1952 revealed that Sredazgidrostroy has created a new construction sector at Shakh-Senem, in the Kara-Kum Desert, where one of the hydraulic centers of the canal will be located. (17)

Kazakhstanskaya Pravda of 12 September 1952, reported that the work had started on the Chapayevskiy Hydraulic Center about 10 miles from Takhia-Tash. (18)

Moskovskaya Pravda of 4 January 1953 confirmed that the work on the Chapayevskiy Hydraulic Center was in progress during 1952 near Leninsk, Tashauzskaya Oblast, and that one of the abandoned irrigation canals branching off the main irrigation canal Shavat, was cleaned for 18 kilometers to bring water to the construction site. Eventually, the paper continued, it is planned to extend the canal for 86 kilometers, as far as Shakh-Senem. (19)

On 20 August 1952, Pravda Vostoka reported that the digging of the 8-kilometer-long by-pass canal has started. (20) According to Turkmenkaya Iskra of 20 October 1952, the canal will take its water from the Anni-Dar'ya at old Takhia-Tash, then run across new Takhia-Tash and end at the point where the head structure of the proposed Main Turkmen Canal will be located. (21)

Pravda of 22 December 1952 stated that the purpose of the by-pass canal is to make water available for the suction dredges which will be digging the Main Turkmen Canal before the Takhia-Tash Reservoir is completed, and also to fill the planned Kurtyshskoye Reservoir after it has been built. (22)

According to Pravda Vostoka of 6 September 1952, Sredazgidrostroy fulfilled the 1952 plan 100.8 percent prior to 12 September 1952, the second anniversary of the government's decree authorizing construction, instead of 7 November as previously pledged. Consequently, the builders made another pledge to complete before 1 January 1953 additional work which includes 60 percent of the construction and installation work planned for 1953. (23)

S. K. Kalizhnyuk, the chief of the Sredazgidrostroy stated in Izvestiya of 15 January 1953 that 1952 appropriations were absorbed 100.1 percent by 21 December 1952, and that the plan for construction and installation work was completed 101.6 percent.

Kalizhnyuk also said that the large volume of work was planned for 1953 including the following:

1. To build a large industrial auxiliary enterprise and gravel and stone quarries.
2. To complete the work on the by-pass canal which involved 2.5 million cubic meters of earthwork, during the first half of 1953.
3. To extend construction activities westward along the site of the projected canal to a point 140-150 kilometers into the desert; the penetration during 1952 having been 50-60 kilometers.
4. To establish a new construction sector at Zengi-Baba, and to start a simultaneous advance into the desert from the southwest.
5. To train skilled workmen to operate excavators, bulldozers, graders, etc.
6. To build a TES in Saitan-Uiz-Dag and in Kazandzhik. (24)

On 12 September 1952, Izvestiya estimated roughly that over 5,000 dump trucks, 2,000 bulldozers, 1,750 scrapers, 300 excavators (expressed in 15-cubic-meter units), and 15 superpowerful suction dredges will eventually be used on the construction of the canal. (25)

- 3 -

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

Leninskoye Znanya of 20 June 1952 revealed that the Krasnyy Molot Plant in Ashkhabad has started manufacturing water heating devices. These devices, according to the paper, will utilize heat from the sun to provide hot water for restaurants, laundries, and other purposes at the construction site. (26)

25X1

1. Moscow, Izvestiya, 11 Jan 53
2. Petrozavodsk, Leninskoye Znanya, 14 Dec 52
3. Kiev, Pravda Ukrainy, 26 Aug 52
4. Moscow, Pravda, 7 Sep 52
5. Ibid., 21 Sep 52
6. Ashkhabad, Turkmenskaya Iskra, 21 Sep 52
7. Pravda, 20 Oct 52
8. Baku, Bakinskiy Rabochiy, 25 Dec 52
9. Pravda Ukrainy, 20 Dec 52
10. Pravda, 5 Jan 53
11. Moskovskiy Komsomolets, 15 Jan 53
12. Moskovskaya Pravda, 1 Aug 52
13. Teheran, Informatsiya Tass, No 3, 5 Jan 53
14. Kishinev, Sovetskaya Moldaviya, 13 Nov 52
15. Vinl'nyus, Sovetskaya Litva, 8 Aug 52
16. Tashkent, Pravda Vostoka, 12 Dec 52
17. Frunze, Sovetskaya Kirgiziya, 13 Sep 52
18. Alma-Ata, Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, 12 Sep 52
19. Moskovskaya Pravda, 4 Jan 53
20. Pravda Vostoka, 20 Aug 52
21. Turkmenskaya Iskra, 22 Oct 52
22. Pravda, 22 Dec 52
23. Pravda Vostoka, 6 Sep 52
24. Izvestiya, 15 Jan 53
25. Ibid., 12 Sep 52
26. Leninskoye Znanya, 20 Jun 52

- E N D -

- 4 -

CONFIDENTIAL